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Date: Fri, 4 Mar 94 16:38:41 EST
Subject: Naval Service Medical News (NSMN) 94-06

R 040426Z MAR 94 ZYB
FM BUMED WASHINGTON DC//00//
SUBJ/PUBLIC AFFAIRS-NAVAL SERVICE MEDICAL NEWS (NSMN) (94-06)//
POC/CAPT P.C. BISHOP/-/MED-00P (PUBLIC AFFAIRS)/-/TEL:(202)
653-1315/TEL:DSN 294-1315//

RMKS/1. THIS SERVICE IS FOR GENERAL DISTRIBUTION OF
INFORMATION AND NEWS OF INTEREST TO NAVY AND MARINE CORPS
MEMBERS, CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES, DEPENDENTS, AND RETIRED
BENEFICIARIES OF NAVY MEDICINE. MAXIMUM AND TIMELY
REDISTRIBUTION OR FURTHER REPRODUCTION AND USE BY ACTION
ADDRESSEES IS ENCOURAGED. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN COORDINATED
WITH THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS (CMC). THE COMMANDANT
HAS AUTHORIZED TRANSMISSION TO MARINE CORPS ACTIVITIES.

2. RESPECTFULLY REQUEST FLEET COMMANDERS READD TO SHIPS AND
OTHER SUBORDINATES WITH MEDICAL PERSONNEL, AS OPERATIONAL
CONDITIONS PERMIT.

3. HEADLINES AND GENERAL INTEREST STORIES THIS WEEK:
(940037)-NAVY MEDICAL CORPS RESERVIST SELECTED FOR SECOND STAR
(940038)-NNMC BETHESDA'S FISHER HOUSE II DEDICATED WITH STYLE
(940039)-AIR FORCE RECOGNIZES NAVY HOSPITAL'S CONTRIBUTION
(940040)-SARA SEEKS FAIR SKINS AND FOLLOWING SEAS
(940041)-MEDICAL BATTALION TRAINS IN CHARLESTON, SC
(940042)-NAVY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT PEOPLE IN SPECIAL OPERATIONS
(940043)-HEALTHWATCH: HEAD LICE -- EVICTING THOSE PESKY CRITTERS
(940044)-HIV AND YOU
(940045)-OET OFFERED THIS MAY, AUGUST AND OCTOBER (PARA 4)

HEADLINE: Navy Medical Corps Reservist Selected for Second Star
BUMED Washington (NSMN) -- Congratulations to RADM James R.
Fowler, MC, USNR, on his selection for promotion to the grade of
rear admiral (upper half), announced by Secretary of the Navy
John H. Dalton on 25 February 1994.

Fowler is the Assistant Chief for Reserve Matters (MED 07)
and Deputy Director, Reserve Medical Programs (N095M).

-USN-

HEADLINE: NNMC Bethesda's Fisher House II Dedicated with Style
NNMC Bethesda, MD (NSMN) -- The National Naval Medical
Center's Fisher House II was officially dedicated in front of its
predecessor, Fisher House I, at a noon ceremony on 22 February,
where a large group of guests and distinguished visitors gathered
to honor benefactors Elizabeth and Zachary Fisher.

The homes are designed to keep military families together
during periods of medical emergency or crises when much-needed
support and comfort to families is essential.

The Fishers have made a career of being "angels" to sick service members and their families. To date, more than a dozen of these homes, affectionately known as Fisher Houses, have been constructed and furnished near military medical treatment facilities by the Fishers, and then donated to the military. Each military community maintains them through donations, appropriations or nominal charges.

Secretary of the Navy John H. Dalton, the guest speaker at the dedication, highly commended the Fishers for their gifts of love to their country and to their fellow men and women of the military. "Their patriotism and respect for the men and women who serve in the armed forces has become legendary," said Dalton. "What they've done is to put their feelings into action. They have earned again and again the respect and gratitude of the entire Navy -- indeed of the entire nation."

RADM David M. Lichtman, MC, also praised the Fishers and announced that in addition to the changes already taking place with the "magnificent new Fisher House," the following other changes have been made: The street in front of the homes will be renamed Fisher Drive, and the access behind both houses will be designated Fisher Street. Additionally, the area between the two houses will now be called Fisher Park, "in appreciation of the generosity of Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher," said Lichtman.

NNMC's Command Master Chief HMCM(SS) Mike Stewart presented the Fishers with a certificate of appointment to "Honorary Chief Petty Officer," on behalf of the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy and the entire enlisted community.

Lichtman then presented the couple with a framed collage of pictures and letters from previous Fisher House guests.

Mr. Fisher expressed his appreciation and said, "We are proud and pleased to be in the position to show in tangible ways how we feel. We've always done all that we could to nourish patriotism. I consider myself a lucky man to have been able to donate my time and energy to help these people. I am honored that you have noticed our efforts. It shows how you feel about other compatriots."

Story by Susan Dietrich, reprinted from NNMC's The Journal, 24 February 1994

-USN-

HEADLINE: Air Force Recognizes Navy Hospital's Contribution

USNH Rota, Spain (NSMN) -- U.S. Naval Hospital Rota received a special Quality Contributor Award in February from the U.S. Air Force personnel of the 625th Airlift Support Squadron located at Torrejon Air Base, Spain.

The award cited the hospital personnel's "dedication to total quality leadership" for the period 1 April 1993 to the present. During this period, the Air Base has been in a downsizing mode and losing the local support of services such as medical, with the U.S. Navy Hospital Rota extending support to the Air Base's remaining personnel.

The Quality Contributor Award saluted the Navy's efforts, saying that "by using the quality team concept, the men and women of the Rota Naval Station Hospital have provided outstanding

quality service to the Air Force personnel."

Story by CDR G. Cort Massey, MSC

-USN-

HEADLINE: Sara Seeks Fair Skins and Following Seas

USS SARATOGA (NSMN) -- Anyone who knows the fable of the war that was lost for want of a horseshoe nail knows how lack of attention to detail snowballs into bigger problems.

The fable sums up a big reason why Saratoga's Medical Department is hosting a four-man dermatology team from Bethesda, MD, and Norfolk, VA. The team will be aboard Sara until mid-April.

The team comprises two medical officers, a medical microbiologist and a chief hospital corpsman. The team has set up the most scientific operational dermatologic study the Navy has seen in more than two decades.

What are they looking for?

"We want to find out what dermatologic conditions, such as all types of skin rashes, afflict this crew," said CAPT Dennis Vidmar, residency director of Dermatology at National Naval Medical Center Bethesda and the team's leader.

Vidmar explained that the team chose Saratoga because it is a large operational command that spends a lot of time at sea.

"This will be the Navy's first real in-depth dermatological study in 25 years. We want to find out how much time off the job they (skin problems) cause, what resources are used to diagnose them, what the treatment costs are, et cetera."

During sick call, patients complaining of skin ailments will see Vidmar or one of his staff members. The patient may then choose to volunteer for the 90-day study. Only those patients who volunteer for the study will be included. So far, all but two patients of about 250 have participated. Vidmar estimated that his team may treat as many as 2,000 patients by the time the study is done.

"Our patients are treated the same whether they volunteer for the study or not," Vidmar said. "No experimental methods are being used, it's all proven textbook practice. None of our patients are being tested or used as guinea pigs. We are merely anonymously collecting data concerning routine diagnosis and treatment."

Vidmar said the study is a win-win situation for his team and Sara's crew. "My philosophy over the years has always been to support our operational forces. This project is another attempt to do that," he said.

Story by JO2 Joshua Janoff, USS Saratoga (CV 60)

-USN-

HEADLINE: Medical Battalion Trains in Charleston, SC

MCB Camp Lejeune, NC (NSMN) -- The 2d Medical Battalion recently conducted its first ever medical display at a naval hospital that sources augmentees to the battalion in time of war.

The 2d Medical Battalion went on the road with Bravo Collecting and Clearing Company to Naval Hospital Charleston, SC.

The field exercise was called "Southern Exposure."

The mission was to set up a functional display at Naval Hospital Charleston that demonstrated the operational capabilities of the 2d Medical Battalion.

A primary antecedent for the mission was to show the medical personnel at Charleston that we "train how we fight," said CDR R.W. Renken, commanding officer, 2d Medical Battalion. Renken further noted that "many of Naval Hospital Charleston's physicians, administrators, nurses and corpsmen are assigned to the 2nd Medical Battalion under the Medical Personnel Augmentation System (MPAS), managed by the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Washington, DC.

This system was tested to its limits during the mobilization to Southwest Asia.

Pre-designated MPAS medical personnel are ordered to report to the commanding general, 2d Force Service Support Group (FSSG) for assignment to the 2d Medical Battalion for forward deployment to the theater of operation.

The Bravo Collecting and Clearing Company provided briefs to members of the naval hospital staff and to civilian guests invited to review the display.

Approximately 300 members of the hospital staff toured the company, as well as 200 other guests, including members of a local Junior ROTC unit, Boy Scouts and local nursing students.

More importantly, the company commander, LCDR Art Ferreira, had the privilege of providing a brief and tour of the display to the Medical Officer of the Marine Corps, RADM Dennis I. Wright, MC, USN.

Wright spent a day touring the Collecting and Clearing Company and observed the mass casualty drill coordinated between the naval hospital and Bravo Collecting and Clearing Company.

"The exercise was a complete success," said BGen M.J. Williams, commanding general, 2d FSSG, when he addressed the Bravo Collecting and Clearing Company during a recent visit to the field.

The benefits received by personnel at Naval Hospital Charleston were numerous. For many of the hospital's medical staff, it was an introduction of what is to come if they were to deploy with the medical battalion.

Story by LT E.S. Saenz, MSC

Reprinted from Marine Corps Base Lejeune's The Globe, 13 JAN 1994

-USN-

HEADLINE: Navy Medical Department People in Special Operations
BUMED Washington (NSMN) -- Wherever the Navy or Marine Corps goes, so does the Navy Medical Department. Thirty percent of our personnel are normally assigned with deployable fleet and fleet marine forces units. Additional medical support is provided for operations such as Provide Promise. Here is the latest update on where our medical people are on assignment.

Medical forces currently on operational assignment are:

Operation Southern Watch

Total medical/dental personnel: 99 (includes 11 BUMED augmentees)

USS Independence (CV 62) Carrier Battle Group (CVBG): The

CVBG has 45 ward beds, one operating room, eight intensive care beds, four quiet room beds, 118 overflow beds and has a medical/dental staff of 60.

In Country: Attached with the Administrative Support Unit Bahrain are five physicians, one dentist, three nurses, two Medical Service Corps (MSC) officers and 26 corpsmen. BUMED also provides one MSC and one corpsman to augment the COMUSNAVCENT staff out of Bahrain.

Operation Provide Promise (The Former Yugoslavia)
Total medical/dental personnel: 75 (includes two BUMED augmentees)

USS Saratoga (CV 60) Carrier Battle Group (CVBG): The CVBG has 60 ward beds, one operating room, eight intensive care beds, four quiet room beds and has a medical/dental staff of 73.

LCDR Michael Henderson, MSC, from Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, VA, one Air Force and three Army medical officers are acting as Staff Officers for the UNPROFOR HQ Staff located in Zagreb.

CDR Jack Lundy, MSC, from the Healthcare Support Office (HSO) Jacksonville, FL, is located at Camp Pleso near Zagreb, Croatia, and is acting as the Medical Liaison Officer for the upcoming Navy mission of providing medical care for the UNPROFOR located in country.

Operation Joint Task Force Full Accounting
Navy physicians and independent duty corpsmen are supporting this operation by volunteering to serve tours ranging from just under two weeks to two months. Naval Hospitals Oak Harbor, WA, and Pensacola, FL, are providing IDCs to augment two missions that are currently in country. Three of the 10 missions to Southeast Asia identified for FY94 have been completed.

Operation Continue Hope
Total medical/dental personnel: 127 (includes one BUMED augmentee)

USS Inchon (LPH 12) Amphibious Ready Group (ARG): The ARG has 31 ward beds, five operating rooms, three intensive care beds, eight quiet room beds, 332 overflow beds and has a medical/dental staff of 127.

Exercise Support
Individuals and components of mobile medical augmentation readiness teams (MMARTs) support various exercises/operations as required, bolstering the "organic" medical assets of the units involved.

Surgical Team 2 (minus): Nine people -- two physicians, two nurses and five corpsmen from Naval Medical Center Portsmouth are providing MMART surgical team coverage for Operation Support Democracy (Haiti).

Surgical Team 8 (reinforced): 30 people -- three physicians, eight nurses and 19 corpsmen from Naval Hospital Jacksonville are scheduled to provide MMART surgical team coverage for Operation Continue Hope on board USS Peleliu (LHA 5) from 17 February through 15 April 1994.

Surgical Team 5 (minus): Six people -- two physicians, one nurses and three corpsmen from Naval Medical Center Oakland, CA, are providing MMART surgical team coverage for Operation Valiant

Usher 94-4 and China Sea Operations.

Fleet Surgical Teams are also deployed to provide additional medical support where needed, as directed by the CINCs.

Miscellaneous OCONUS and Fleet Support

Providing TAD (temporary additional duty) support to eight fleet platforms and five OCONUS facilities are 22 Navy Medical Department personnel: 10 physicians, five nurses, two MSCs and five hospital corpsmen.

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HEADLINE: HEALTHWATCH: Head Lice -- Evicting Those Pesky Critters

USNH Yokosuka, Japan (NSMN) -- "Head lice? But I wash our hair brushes. I'm not a dirty person." Those are common statements heard at the Pediatric Clinic of U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka.

Remember, head lice have no personal preference of social-economic background. They only care about setting up a new home, building "apartment complexes" for relatives and setting up "shopping malls" and "playgrounds" ... all on one tiny head. They are here to stay and have no plans to leave unless you evict them with the proper medicines.

These tiny insects bite the scalp and attach eggs (nits) to the hair with a strong glue. A person with head lice may have no itching at all or may have a lot of itching, especially toward the back of the scalp and the nape of the neck. He or she may only be aware of the tiny nits beading the hairs. This infestation is passed from one person to another by close personal contact, or on infested hats, collars, pillows, upholstered furniture, or combs and brushes.

Let's face it, children are children, and they enjoy having others play with their hair (especially little girls). During the past number of years we, as parents, have encouraged sharing. Sharing is very important, but when unexpected critters are shared, don't panic.

If you see head lice or the tiny nits sticking to your child's hair, call the Pediatric Clinic, explain your problem, and we will make every effort to get you the necessary medications that day.

-- (EDITORS NOTE: Contact your military medical treatment facility's pediatric clinic for local guidelines and the steps parents will need to take to get their child treated.)

Then you can put out the eviction notice to all of those pesky bugs. Be sure to exactly follow the instructions given to you or some of those critters might just decide to continue to homestead, eviction notice or not.

Until your child has been treated, he or she cannot go back to school, because head lice can be passed on to another child and the cycle will continue.

Parents should realize that if their children get head lice, it doesn't mean they are dirty, and this pesky little problem is very easily fixed. But you can't wait for head lice to leave. Evict them with the proper medications ... now.

Story by LT Debora Pfeffer, Division Officer, Pediatric Clinic

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HEADLINE: HIV and You

BUMED Washington (NSMN) -- When conducting HIV/AIDS prevention education at your command, it is important to keep in mind that information about HIV infection changes quickly and is reported in a variety of places. It is essential that the sponsors of these programs become familiar with sources that give the most accurate and current information.

Numerous scientific medical and nursing journals have excellent information. The Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) published by the Centers for Disease Control contains the most recent statistics available. The National AIDS Hotline, 1-800-342-AIDS (English) or 1-800-344-SIDA (Spanish), and the National AIDS Information Clearinghouse, 1-800-458-5231, can provide current statistics and referrals to other reliable sources of information.

The Navy HIV Program located in Bethesda, MD, exists to serve you -- the men and women of the Navy and Marine Corps. If you need information, or would like to become a Navy HIV prevention instructor, call the staff at DSN 295-0048 or commercial (301) 295-0048. Thanks for your efforts.

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4. Professional Notes: Information on upcoming symposiums, conferences or courses of interest to Navy Medical Department personnel and wrap-ups on ones attended. Anyone with information to share in this section should contact the editor (see the last paragraph of this message on ways to do so).

Meetings in March:

-- 29-31 March 1994, Sea-Air-Space Exposition, Sheraton Washington Hotel, Washington, DC. For information, contact Pamela Broberg, Navy League of the United States, (703) 528-1775.

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HEADLINE: OET Offered this May, August and October

NDVECC Jacksonville, FL (NSMN) -- The Navy Disease Vector Ecology and Control Center in Jacksonville offers a two-week course, "Operational Entomology Training" (OET) CIN: B-322-1077, designed for preventive medicine personnel, reserve personnel with preventive medicine responsibilities, environmental health officers, epidemiologists, entomologists, Medical Department personnel assigned to Naval Preventive Medicine Units, and U.S. Army 91S-qualified active duty personnel.

OET is being offered three times in calendar year 1994: 2-13 May, 1-12 August and 17-28 October. The initial week consists of classroom lectures and laboratory work. The second week is spent in the field providing advanced training in applied, vector-borne disease control as may be required in operational support of disaster relief, combat or other contingency operations.

As part of OET, an elaborate case study is presented to each group of five-seven students. The group is "assigned" to accompany a deployment as a preventive medicine (PM) team. Under

the leadership of its senior member, the team must assess the nature of the deployment from a PM standpoint and anticipate all of its activities from the initial information-gathering stage through gear selection, correspondence, logistics staging and personnel preparation. Because of the nature of the training, the vector control and sanitation aspects of the team's responsibilities are stressed, although other PM areas are not totally neglected. The objective of the exercise is to give each student the opportunity to participate in all phases of a deployment on short notice. Also, the qualified candidate may recertify in category 8 - "DOD Public Health Pest Control."

Nominations must be confirmed no later than 30 days prior to class convening date and must include grade/rank, name, SSN, command, plain language mailing address and a point of contact. Only 15 seats are available per class. All travel and per diem must be funded by the parent activity.

For information, contact the DVECC Training Department at (904) 772-2424, DSN 942-2424, FAX (904) 779-0107.

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5. Two-month calendar of events and observances:

MARCH

Women's History Month -- "In Every Generation, Action Frees Our Dreams"

National Nutrition Month

Cataract Awareness Month

Eye Donor Month

Hemophilia Awareness Month

National Kidney Month

National Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Awareness Month

Mental Retardation Awareness Month

National Social Work Month

EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) In Health Care Month

2 March 1867: Navy Civil Engineer Corps established

3 March 1871: Navy Medical Corps Birthday

5-6 March: National Easter Seal Telethon

6-12 March: Save Your Vision Week

7-11 March: Newspaper in Education Week

8 March: VOTE! Texas Primary

8 March: E-6 Advancement Exam

11 March: VOTE! Illinois Primary

9 March: BUPERS has night detailing until 2200 EST

16 March: Freedom of Information Day

16 March: Black Press Day

16 March 1827: "Freedom's Journal," first black newspaper in United States, founded in New York City

17 March: St. Patrick's Day

20 March, 1528 ET: Vernal Equinox -- Beginning of Spring

20-24 March: Children and Hospitals Week

20-26 March: National Poison Prevention Week

22 March: American Diabetes Alert: Sound the Alert

23 March: BUPERS has night detailing until 2200 EST

26 March, Sundown: Passover Begins

27 March: Palm Sunday

28 March: Reserve E-8/E-9 Board Convenes
30 March: Doctors' Day
31 March: E-5 Evaluations Due

APRIL

Month of the Military Child
National Child Abuse Prevention Month
Cancer Control Month
National Alcohol Awareness Month
National Occupational Therapy Month
Keep America Beautiful Month
National Humor Month
Home Improvement Month
Mathematics Education Month
1 April: April Fool's Day
1-3 April: Alcohol-Free Weekend
1 April: Good Friday
2 April, Sundown: Passover Ends
2 April 1948: Navy Dental Technician Birthday
3 April: Easter
3 April, 0200: Daylight Saving Time begins (set clocks forward one hour)
4-10 April: Healthcare Access Personnel Week -- "We Admit We Care" (recognizes admissions, registration and patient access services staff)
7 April: World Health Day
8 April: Holocaust Remembrance Day
11-17 April: National Medical Laboratory Week
15 April: Income Tax Filing Deadline
17-23 April: National Organ/Tissue Donor Awareness Week
17-23 April: National Volunteer Week
17-23 April: National Library Week -- "Libraries Change Lives"
18 April: Active 0-5 MC/DC/NC/MS Selection Boards Convene
22 April: Earth Day
23 April: Book Day
24 April 1800: Congress approved act giving birth to the Library of Congress
25 April: Medical ECP Board Convenes
27 April: Secretaries Day
29 April: Arbor Day
30 April: E-9 Evaluations Due

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6. ADDRESSEES ARE ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT INFORMATION AND NEWS ITEMS OF MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OR BENEFICIARY INTEREST (IN STORY FORMAT) BY TELEPHONE, FAX OR E-MAIL TO BUMED, ATTN: EDITOR, NAVAL SERVICE MEDICAL NEWS (MED 00P2). TELEPHONE (202) 653-1315; DSN 294-1315. FAX (202) 653-0086; DSN 294-0086. E-MAIL NMC0ENL@BUMED10.MED.NAVY.MIL.

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